

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 16, 2025

VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

The Honorable Daniel D. Driscoll
Secretary of the U.S. Army

Dear Secretary Driscoll,

We appreciate your recent testimonies before the House and Senate Armed Services Committees in which you highlighted the importance of the Rock Island Arsenal (RIA). As you continue to plan and implement the reorganization outlined in the April 30, 2025, Army Transformation and Acquisition Reform memorandum, we ask that the Department of the Army be forthcoming and transparent with all stakeholders of RIA, especially members of Congress.

On April 4, 2025, members of the Iowa and Illinois delegation wrote to you outlining the saliency of RIA and requested a briefing to discuss any potential command and personnel changes to be made at the Arsenal. Unfortunately, our offices have not been provided a dedicated briefing on these plans, regardless of continual follow-up and directives being released to realign the headquarters and units within the Army Material Command (AMC) and Joint Munitions Command (JMC). From our questions during the broader Army transformation brief to the Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) staff on May 22, and the SASC Army posture hearing on June 5, the last we understand from the Army is that the impact will be the likely removal of 100 personnel and the elimination of a data center. The details you or Army leadership have reported to Congress differ from those shared with us from the RIA community. As the Army continues to implement transformation initiatives, we hear about the personnel impacts, such as roughly 150 positions within JMC headquarters, and 400 positions Arsenal wide that will be eliminated once the initiative is complete. We request a full briefing on the implementation plans, including workforce and mission impacts, and proposed timelines.

On May 21, 2025, the Department of the Army provided a response to a letter sent by members of the Iowa and Illinois delegation. While we can appreciate and recognize the need to eliminate inefficiencies and support our national defense objectives, which may include reductions in workforce, we would like to understand the obsolete programs that the Army finds are present at RIA. This includes the outdated, redundant, and inefficient programs cited in the May 21 response. We find that RIA is a highly efficient installation, as demonstrated by the

dedicated workforce and capabilities embedded there. Contradictory conclusions should be justified by evidence.

It is encouraging to know that you and the Army are willing to work to improve the workload and operations at RIA, which may lead to additional jobs. The RIA community has contributed significantly to the objectives of the Army to deliver warfighting capabilities, and we have no doubt that it will continue to do so in the future. We look forward to hearing from you on the Army's course of action for RIA and working with you increase the workload at RIA. Thank you for your continued dedication to our soldiers and to Army readiness.

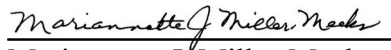
Sincerely,



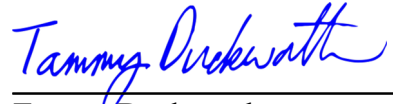
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United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



Mariannette J. Miller-Meeks,
M.D.
Member of Congress



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



Eric Sorensen
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